



BOROUGH OF CONGLETON

REPORT

ON THE


**Health and Sanitary Circumstances
of the Borough**

FOR THE

Year ended 31st December, 1956.



BOROUGH OF CONGLETON
R E P O R T
on the
HEALTH AND SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES
OF THE BOROUGH
for the
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1956.



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Medical Officer of Health -

L. Rich, M. B. , Ch. B. , M. R. C. O. G. , D. P. H.

Chief Public Health Inspector -

R. G. Whiston, M. A. P. H. I.

Additional Public Health Inspector

E. V. Robinson, M. A. P. H. I. (Resigned July, 1956)

Temporary Additional Public Health Inspector

R. D. Clarke M. A. P. H. I. (Appointed August, 1956)

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Congleton,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the
Annual Report for the year 1956 on the Health
and Sanitary Circumstances of the Borough.

There has been a fall in the incidence of
Births and Deaths, and an increase in the
estimated population of 50 to 15,870.

For the second year in succession it is
satisfactory to note that there have been no
deaths of any mother in child birth.

The general prevalence of infectious
disease has fallen, but there was an increase
in the number of cases of Scarlet Fever. This
disease continues to be mild and gives no cause
for alarm. What is disturbing however is the
continued appearance of Whooping Cough. We now
have it within our means to stamp out this
disease. It is possible for parents to have
their children immunised in a manner similar
to that for Diphtheria, and the results promise
to be equally as good.

I have noticed an increase over the past 7
years in the incidence of Lung Cancer and a
table showing the figures are included in this
report. Medical and Statistical evidence has

shown a relationship between smoking and this disease. It is the intention to publish these figures annually so that it may become generally known how far we in this Borough are affected.

One of the outstanding occurrences during the year was the commencement of the Council's Slum Clearance programme. One Clearance Area comprising of 10 houses was confirmed and 13 other areas comprising of a total of 58 houses were represented and submitted to the Ministry. Slum Clearance now remains as one of the outstanding social and health problems facing the Council. As pointed out in the Report last year some 800 houses have to be dealt with during the next few years.

Further progress was made with the Improvement Grant Scheme. It is my view that there is insufficient understanding of the all-round benefits of the Grant Scheme. For what happens is that the occupier of an improved house gets modern living conditions; the owner gives his property a new lease of life, and the rate-payer will often get back in higher rateable values, more than the Council's share of the grant. This method of dealing with unfit property is certainly less expensive than providing a new house.

This is the first year on record that there have been no cases of Bovine or Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified. Whether there is any relationship between this and the fact that our area became a specified one for milk distribution in 1953, is perhaps too early to say. But it is the hope that this measure will result in the stamping out of that form of Tuberculosis derived from cattle.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis continues to be prevalent. 12 new cases were notified during the year.

As has been pointed out in previous reports vaccination against this disease is offered to contacts of cases, and to all school children in their thirteenth year. Experience has shown that this vaccination is a safe

procedure, and confers a good degree of immunity. The time has now arrived when consideration should be given to the wider application of this vaccine.

An outstanding event during the year was the beginning of the vaccination campaign against Poliomyelitis. Limited supplies of vaccine has made it possible to offer this only to a restricted number of children. But it is hoped that when supplies are plentiful the protection against Poliomyelitis will be available to all.

Once again I wish to record my sincere thanks to our Clerk Mr. Jack Mee, and to his deputy Mr. H. Lawton, and the other members of his staff for their help and guidance in enabling me to carry out my duties. I am particularly indebted to the Chief Public Health Inspector Mr. R. G. Whiston, and the members of his department with whom I work most closely. I am also grateful to Mr. Halpin, the Borough Engineer and Surveyor for his contribution to this report.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

L. RICH

Medical Officer of Health.

The figures in brackets throughout this report are for 1955

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Extracts from Vital Statistics

Estimated population 15870 (15820)

Births

				Total.		Male.		Female.
Live births	{	Legitimate	... ..	188 (200)		93 (107)		95 (93)
	{	Illegitimate	... ..	11 (9)		5 (7)		6 (2)
Still births	{	Legitimate	... ..	4 (2)		1 (-)		3 (2)
	{	Illegitimate	... ..	- (-)		- (-)		- (-)
Live birth rate per 1000 estimated average population mid. 1956						12.4		(13)
Live birth rate for England & Wales per 1000 of the population						15.7		(15)
Still birth rate per 1000 total (live and still) births						19.7		(9.4)
Still birth rate for England & Wales per 1000 total								
(live & still) births.								23 (23.2)
Still birth rate per 1000 total population						.25		(.12)
Still birth rate for England & Wales per 1000 total population						.37		(.34)

Infantile Mortality

The total number of deaths is shown as follows:-

				Total.		Male.		Female.
Legitimate	...	...		5 (4)		4 (2)		1 (2)
Illegitimate	...	...		- (-)		- (-)		- (-)
Infantile mortality rate per 1000 live births						25.1		(19.1)
Infantile mortality rate for England & Wales						23.8		(24.9)
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births						26.6		(20)
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births						0		(0)

Deaths

		Total.		Male.		Female.
Deaths, all ages		202 (212)		120 (101)		82 (111)
Death rate per 1000 estimated average population				12.9		(13.6)
Death rate for England & Wales per 1000 of the population				11.7		(11.7)

The following table shows the deaths from all causes within the district during the past year:-

Cause	Total	Male	Female
Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	6	6	-
Tuberculosis, other ...	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease ...	1	1	-
Diphtheria ...	-	-	-
Whooping Cough ...	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections ...	-	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis ...	-	-	-
Measles ...	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic disease ...	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	9	5	4
Malignant neoplasm, Lung, bronchus ...	8	6	2
Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	1	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	-	-	-
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms ...	14	8	6
Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	-	-	-
Diabetes ...	-	-	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	42	19	23
Coronary disease, angina ...	29	19	10
Hypertension with heart disease ...	5	2	3
Other heart diseases ...	23	14	9
Other circulatory disease ...	14	5	9
Influenza ...	1	1	-
Pneumonia ...	2	1	1
Bronchitis ...	12	9	3
Other diseases of respiratory system ...	1	1	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	3	3	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	-	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis ...	3	2	1
Hyperplasia of prostate ...	4	4	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	-	-	-
Congenital malformations ...	1	1	-
Other defined and ill defined diseases ...	15	7	8
Motor vehicle accidents ...	1	1	-
All other accidents ...	5	4	1
Suicide ...	2	1	1
Homicide and operations of war ...	-	-	-
Total	202	120	82

Deaths from Puerperal and Maternal causes:-

	No. of deaths
Puerperal Sepsis ...	0 (0)
Other Maternal causes ...	0 (0)
Total ...	0 (0)

Maternal Mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births 0 (0).

Cancer of the Lung & Bronchus

	Male	Female	Total
1950	1	-	1
1951	3	1	4
1952	4	-	4
1953	2	1	3
1954	4	1	5
1955	3	-	3
1956	6	2	8

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Care of Mothers and Young Children

The Health Visitors serving in this area are as follows:-

Name

Address

Miss M. Corbishley, S.P.N. S.C.M. H.V. 12, West Street, Congleton,
Telephone No. 169.

Miss D. Austin, S.R.N. S.C.M. Q.I.D.N.S. Park Street Clinic, Congleton,
Telephone No. 2095.

As was anticipated in last year's report a Midwives Clinic was started up in Congleton. Here the mother-to-be is encouraged to attend and an atmosphere of confidence is gradually built up based on lectures, demonstrations and a scheme of relaxation exercises.

There is no doubt in the minds of the mothers who have attended of the great value they derive from all this. From their statements and letters we receive there would appear to be a significant reduction in the duration of labour and whilst no one would deny that labour is an unpleasant occurrence much of the fear and ignorance about this event has been dispelled.

STATISTICS

Mothers' Clinics

	New Cases	Total Attendances	No. of Clinics Held.
Ante-natal	70 (90)	403 (518)	50 (50)

Dental:-

Pre-natal	7 (1)	16 (1)
Nursing mothers	7 (9)	22 (19)
Dentures supplied	4	(4)

Infant Welfare

New Cases			Total Attendances	No. of Clinics held	Cases seen by Doctor	Average per Clinic seen by Doctor
0-1	1-2	2-5	0-1	1-2	2-5	
136	-	-	1373	187	153	49
(169)	(-)	(-)	(1487)	(223)	(188)	(48)
						662 (817)
						13.5 (17)

	New Cases	Total Attendances	No. of Clinics held	Average per Clinic
Ophthalmic Clinic	4 (1)	12 (7)	15 (12)	.8 (.5)
E.N.T. Clinic	1 (2)	1 (2)	5 (5)	.2 (.4)

Welfare Foods

The handling of this service has proceeded efficiently. No complaints have been received during the year, and all demands were satisfied.

The present arrangements are that National Dried Milk, Vitamin Tablets, Codliver Oil and Orange Juice, may be obtained each week-day from 2 to 5 p.m. and on Saturday mornings from 9 to 12, from the Clinic at 12, West Street.

Welfare Foods Sold - 1956

Distribution Centre	National Dried Milk		A & D	Cod	Orange
	F. Cream	H. Cream	Tablets.	Liver Oil	Juice
12, West Street, Congleton	8394 (8920)	231 (149)	971 (757)	1804 (2191)	12442 (11746)

Day Nursery

Once again it is satisfactory to report on a very good average attendance for the year.

Priority of admission is given to widows, unmarried mothers, and where wives have to go out to work on account of illness of husbands or for other social reasons.

Careful selection of cases for admission is made by the Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee of the Divisional Health Committee before applications for admission are granted.

There is no doubt that if a Day Nursery were not available in Congleton many infants would be placed in unsatisfactory homes so as to allow the mother to go out to work. The Local Health Authority has a legal responsibility to care for and protect children, and a Day Nursery where no Nursery School is available is very essential for a town like Congleton which employs so many women in its factories.

Day Nursery - Attendances 1956.

	Average No. Attending		Total Attendances	
0 - 2 years	9.25	(9)	2281	(2191)
2 - 5 years	32	(33.2)	7744	(8121)

Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	1955	
%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
83.6	101.8	108.2	103.3	107.3	110.3	103.2	90.5	101.8	101.1	107.4	101.2	101.5	
(93.8)	(105.2)	(108.6)	(108.7)	(115.5)	(105.6)	(110)	(102.7)	(106.7)	(105.7)	(109.2)	(96.8)	(105.7)	

Midwifery

The two midwives employed by the Cheshire County Council are:-

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Telephone No.</u>
D. H. Wright	Ewanrigg, Giantswood Lane, Congleton	Congleton 240
M. Williams	115, Woolston Avenue, Congleton	Congleton 690

In addition, Nurse M. S. Bowman, 4, High Lowe Avenue, Congleton, combines the duties of Home Nurse with that of District Midwife.

Approximately twice as many babies continue to be born in hospital as do in the home.

We have a very good Domiciliary Midwifery Service which is not being fully used whilst the hospitals are overworked.

It would be in the interests of all concerned if more mothers, where medical and home conditions are satisfactory, were encouraged to remain at home to have their babies.

It is satisfactory to know that no mother died during childbirth during the year and this reflects great credit to all concerned.

Births 1956

Hospital		Home		Private N. Home	
Live	Still	Live	Still	Live	Still
126 (151)	4 (-)	70 (65)	1 (1)	- (2)	- (-)

Home Nursing

Two District Nurses are resident in Congleton Borough. They both occupy Council Houses.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
M. S. Bowman	4, High Lowe Avenue, Congleton, Telephone No. Congleton 444

R. Ward	24, The Westlands, Congleton, Telephone No. Congleton 2104
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The work of the Home Nurse in assisting the family doctor in the treatment of patients at home, helps considerably in relieving the strain on our hospitals.

Once again I am happy to report that no single complaint was received during the year, and many instances of the fine work being done have been noted.

Public Health Laboratory Service

Samples of water, milk, ice cream and food are submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Stafford as and when required.

Vaccination and Immunisation

Every effort is made by the Health Visitors, Doctors and publicity by poster, and in the press to stimulate the parents to bring forward their children for immunisation and vaccination. The response appears to be fairly steady but without doubt can be improved upon.

For the first time the public were offered the opportunity of registering for Poliomyelitis Vaccination. Owing to restricted supplies only young children could be catered for. It is hoped that as time goes on and more material becomes available, everyone will have an opportunity of obtaining this protection.

There is no doubt that good immunity is obtained by this procedure and the incidence of Paralytic Poliomyelitis is considerably reduced.

Statistics

Diphtheria Immunisation

Pre-school children	...	...	8	(13)
School Children	...	...	18	(92)
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			26	(105)
			<hr/>	<hr/>
Reinforcing Injections	...		24	(395)

Whooping Cough Immunisation

Pre-school children	...	...	4	(5)
School children	...	...	4	(103)
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			8	(108)
			<hr/>	<hr/>

Combined Immunisation

(Diphtheria and Whooping Cough).

Pre-school children	...	...	144	(165)
School children	...	...	6	(100)
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			150	(265)
			<hr/>	<hr/>

Primary Vaccination

Pre-school children	...	...	86	(69)
School children	...	...	1	(2)
Adults	...	...	3	(4)
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			90	(75)
			<hr/>	<hr/>

Re-Vaccination

Pre-school children	...	...	1	(-)
School children	...	...	1	(-)
Adults	...	...	13	(6)
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			15	(6)
			<hr/>	<hr/>

Ambulance and Sitting Case Car Transport

The year was marked by a very important change in the organization of the Ambulance Service.

The Divisional Health Committee recommended that the Contractor's service should be taken over by the County Council and this was accepted.

We are now providing a full time Ambulance Service in Congleton entirely staffed by County Council employed personnel. The Committee agreed to employ the Contractor as Supervisor and his then existing staff as our own drivers.

Steps were taken to see that the men were properly clothed and given the best possible conditions to enable them to carry out their important duties. Classes were arranged in First Aid, and each driver is now fully qualified and in possession of the St. Johns First Aid Certificate. Regular meetings are held at the Ambulance Station in Cross Street on a voluntary basis so that the men's knowledge may be maintained and their practise improved.

In addition one of the men has qualified as a Driver/Mechanic with the result that all repairs and overhauls are now done by our own staff. This not only cuts costs but ensures that the vehicle is back on the road in the shortest time.

It will be our endeavour to maintain an Ambulance Service in Congleton of the highest standard with vehicles in a condition worthy of the important work they have to do.

Ambulance Figures - 1956

	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Mileages	5904 (3641)	6226 (3391)	5984 (3519)	6174 (3977)	7026 (3347)	4588 (5509)	3984 (5170)	2453 (4941)	2227 (5202)	3135 (4470)	2512 (4693)	1940 (5302)
Journeys	174 (132)	186 (121)	202 (123)	172 (123)	202 (120)	146 (155)	132 (168)	97 (178)	93 (120)	121 (155)	99 (166)	95 (184)
Patients	761 (419)	665 (452)	852 (435)	830 (459)	997 (472)	665 (569)	552 (536)	292 (619)	266 (632)	376 (685)	331 (597)	273 (649)

Sitting Case Car Figures 1956

	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Mileages	2138 (1681)	1102 (1005)	- (2545)	- (2134)	- (2545)	2456 (2228)	3433 (2140)	3927 (2109)	3237 (2290)	3609 (2478)	3592 (2285)	3660 (2086)
Journeys	48 (35)	23 (27)	- (54)	- (39)	- (54)	76 (47)	102 (62)	137 (57)	122 (55)	135 (54)	126 (60)	106 (46)
Patients	171 (139)	73 (67)	- (164)	- (114)	- (203)	284 (127)	362 (177)	475 (172)	385 (178)	414 (150)	441 (121)	359 (175)

In addition, private hire cars did 263 (689) journeys carrying 734 (1668) patients 9417 (19710) miles.

Domestic Help Service

Once again there is an increase in the amount of work being done by the Home Help Service.

It is now evident that this service as it becomes better known is being more used.

Admission into hospital for chronic and Elderly Sick is extremely difficult in this area, and throughout the year we receive numerous requests from family doctors to help with this difficult case at home.

Statistics relating to the Home Help Service provided in Congleton during 1956 are as follows:-

Home Helps employed during 1956

Full time	...	-	(-)
Temporary	...	13	(15)
Casual	...	1	(3)
		<hr/> 19	<hr/> (18)

Home Helps employed at 31st December, 1956.

Full time	...	-	(-)
Temporary	...	17	(13)
Casual	...	1	(-)
		<hr/> 18	<hr/> (13)

Applications received during 1956.

Confinement	...	4	(7)
Sickness	...	11	(6)
Tuberculosis	...	-	(1)
Aged and infirm		20	(20)
		<hr/> 35	<hr/> (34)

Cases attended during 1956.

Confinement	...	4	(3)
Sickness	...	7	(8)
Tuberculosis	...	-	(1)
Aged and infirm		54	(47)
		<hr/> 65	<hr/> (59)

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

I am indebted to Mr. H. S. Halpin, Borough Engineer and Surveyor, for the following information,

Water

During the year the following quantities of water have been supplied from the various sources in the Borough:-

Hug Bridge Pumping Station	...	...	390,000	galls.	per	day
Forge Lane Pumping Station	...	...	30,000	"	"	"
Buglawton Borehole	...	...	47,000	"	"	"
			<hr/>			
			793,000	galls.	per	day
			<hr/>			

Supplies have been continued to the Mid and South East Cheshire Water Board to the extent of approximately 95,000 galls. per day from the total quantity of water supplied.

Samples of water have been submitted for analysis from time to time to the County Analyst and the Public Health Laboratory, Stafford, and in all cases the chemical and bacteriological examinations have proved to be quite satisfactory.

The hardness of the water at present supplied from Forge Lane is 27 parts per 100,000 whilst the Hug Bridge water has a total hardness of 19 and the Buglawton Borehole approximately 5 parts per 100,000.

Schemes are in progress for the provision of a new water main in Congleton Edge Road and for new services at Cloudside which will enable properties at present supplied by wells to be connected to the public supply.

A scheme is also in progress for the provision of a new water main in Holmeschapel Road.

The electrification of the Forge Lane Pumping Station is now in progress.

Drainage and Sewerage

Schemes are in course of preparation for the sewerage of the West Heath Area of the Borough and also for the extension of the existing Sewage Works to serve a population of 20,000.

Public Cleansing

A total of 4,630 tons of house refuse has been collected and disposed of by controlled tipping during the year.

Salvage

	Tons.	Cwt.	Qrs.	£.	s.	d.
Waste Paper	133.	7	2	1063.	1.	5.
Kitchen Waste	12	18	0	49.	19.	9.
Loose Tins (1 load)	1	load.		1.	0.	0.
	146	5	2	1114.	1.	2.

Housing

Number of Council Houses completed in 1956

Houses	69	(28)
Single Person Flats ...	6	(-)
2 Bed Maisonettes ...	12	(-)
Shops	6	(-)

Private Houses completed in 1956 ... 47 (58)

Number of Applicants on the Waiting List at
31st. December 1956 (excluding applications
for aged persons bungalows) 309 (435)

Number of Visits re Housing Applications
by Medical Officer of Health and
Public Health Inspector 20 (29)

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year, 1956

Disease	Age Distribution.											Total Cases Identified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths.
	Under 1 yr	1- 2	2- 3	3- 4	4- 5	5- 10	10- 15	15- 20	20- 35	35- 45	45 and over.			
Scarlet Fever	...	-	-	1	12	7	1	1	-	-	-	24	16	-
Whooping Cough.	...	3	2	5	4	11	1	-	-	-	-	25	-	-
Diphtheria	...	5	1	3	2	3	1	-	-	-	-	19	-	-
Pneumonia	...	-	-	2	-	1	-	3	4	2	5	17	7	2
Erysipelas	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	-	-
Eruptive Pyrexia	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-

Tuberculosis

For comparative purposes I have recorded the notifications of Tuberculosis during 1956 in conjunction with the notifications of this disease received each year since 1947.

Notifications - 1947 to 1956

Male	1947		1948		1949		1950		1951		1952		1953		1954		1955		1956	
	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP
Up to 1 yr.																				
1 - 5							1		1				1		2					
5 - 15		3		2		2	1	1	1		1		4	2	1					
15 - 25	1						1		1	1			1				5			
25 - 35		1	2		3		3		1		1		1		1		1	1	1	
35 - 45	2		1		2	1	2				1						1			
45 - 55	1				1		2				1						3		4	
55 - 65	2				1		1		2		2				1		1		2	
65 & over	2								1	1		2	1				1		1	
Female																				
Up to 1 yr.		1		1														1		
1 - 5		2		1					1											
5 - 15			1			2		1					2		1					
15 - 25	1	1	1		1	1	5		5		2		1		1		1		2	
25 - 35			3				4		1		2	1	2		1		2			
35 - 45			1			1		1			1						2		1	
45 - 55					1		1										1	2		1
55 - 65			1		1		1						1				1			
65 & over																				
Total	9	8	10	4	10	7	20	3	13	4	9	4	6	10	6	5	21	1	12	

Deaths - 1947 to 1956

	1947		1948		1949		1950		1951		1952		1953		1954		1955		1956	
Male	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP
Up to 1 yr.																				
1 - 5				1				1												
5 - 15			1																	
15 - 25				1					1											
25 - 35	1				1				1			1							1	
35 - 45	1				1		1								1					
45 - 55			1				1				2									2
55 - 65	1						1		1									1		
65 & over	3									1			1	1			1			3
<hr/>																				
Female																				
Up to 1 yr.			1																	
1 - 5									1										1	
5 - 15																				
15 - 25				1		1														
25 - 35													1							
35 - 45						1												1		
45 - 55																				
55 - 65													1							
65 & over				1																
<hr/>																				
Total	6	2	3	2	4	-	3	1	3	2	2	-	2	2	2	-	3	1	6	-

Cases on the Tuberculosis Register at 31st December, 1956 were as follows:-

	Up to 1 yr.	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65 & over	Total
Male Pulmonary	-	-	5	5	9	9	14	8	2	52
Female Pulmonary	-	1	2	9	14	10	10	7	-	53
Male Non-Pulmonary	-	-	10	3	2	4	1	-	-	20
Female Non-Pulmonary	-	-	3	1	-	-	4	2	2	12

The following sections of this report cover the work of the Public Health Inspector's Department and have been compiled by Mr. R. G. Whiston the Chief Public Health Inspector.

Summary of Visits and Inspections.

<u>General</u>	Number of visits
Water supply	40
Drainage	206
Stables and Piggeries	1
Caravans	5
Factories	29
Rats & Mice	8
Schools	6
Shops Acts	30
Miscellaneous Visits	268
Interviewing & Appointments	351
Atmospheric Pollution	95
Pet Animals Act	6
Rag Plock Act	1
Swimming Baths	2
Farms	8
Cinemas	6

Housing.

Under Public Health Acts.

Number of Houses Inspected	117
Re-visits to Houses previously Inspected	332

Under Housing Acts.

Number of Houses Inspected	63
Re-visits to Houses previously Inspected	138

Verminous Premises.

Number of Houses Inspected	90
Found verminous and disinfested	17
Miscellaneous Housing Visits	159
Improvement Grants	59

Infectious Disease.

Inquiries in cases of Infectious Diseases	26
Visits re Disinfection	20

Food Premises and Food Inspection.

Visits to Slaughterhouses	...	1447
Butchers	...	41
Fishmongers & Poulterers	...	10
Grocers	...	103
Dairies & Milkshops	...	3
Ice Cream Premises	...	19
Food Preparing Premises	...	15
Bakehouses	...	15
Market Stalls	...	3
Restaurants	...	17
Greengrocers & Fruiterers	...	13
Licensed Premises	...	3
Miscellaneous	...	17
Factory, Canteens	...	7
Total	...	<u>3810</u>

Summary of Notices Served.

Number of Informal Notices Served	140
Number of Informal Notices Complied with	101
Number of Statutory Notices served	7
Number of Statutory Notices Complied with	9

Complaints.

During the year 140 complaints were received and investigated; 24 of those were unfounded.

27 were found to be relating to dangerous structures, waste of water and other matters and were referred to the Departments concerned.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

Nuisances.

Following complaints and as a result of routine survey, 117 houses were inspected, a total of 157 nuisances were found and 78 informal notices were issued. In 4 cases statutory notices were served. 332 visits were made to houses previously inspected and 195 nuisances were found to be abated. 78 informal and 5 statutory notices were complied with. 5 statutory notices were served under the provisions of Section 99 of the Cheshire Council Act, 1953, requiring stoppages to be removed from drains.

Drainage.

The repair of existing drainage was supervised and necessary testing done. 206 visits were made in connection with this work and the tracing of existing drains at various properties.

Water Supply.

Routine samples were taken monthly from each of the town's systems of supply and sent to the Public Health Laboratory Service, Stafford, for Bacteriological examination. The reports on samples submitted showed satisfactory results.

Disinfestation.

D, D, T, and Gammaxene compounds in liquid and powder form are used for this purpose, and successful results have been obtained.

The houses and household effects of new tenants for Council Houses are inspected and where necessary disinfestation is undertaken before removal. For this and other reasons, 90 inspections have been carried out and 7 premises treated.

Conversions of Pails, Etc.

The Council's resolution to make a grant of £5 towards the cost of conversion of pails to water closets was continued. No applications for grant were made.

Following representation to the Managers, the conversion of 5 trough-type closets to water closets was satisfactorily completed at St. Peter's Infants School and the Council made a grant of £41.6.0. towards the cost of the work.

Offensive Trades.

One premises is registered for tripe boiling and is constructed on modern hygienic lines. No complaints were received in connection with the trade. 3 inspections were carried out during the year.

Infectious Disease and Disinfection.

Inquiries have been made into 26 cases of infectious disease. Disinfection of premises following these, and removals and deaths of T.B. cases, has been carried out and where necessary infected bedding has been taken to the Isolation Hospital, Macclesfield, for disinfection by steam.

Infected library books are treated with gaseous fumigant before return for circulation.

Caravans.

5 visits have been made in connection with the control of moveable dwellings.

Public Mortuary.

This service is under the charge of the Department and during the year there have been 24 admissions.

HOUSING ACTS, 1936-54.

66 houses were inspected under the provisions of the Housing Acts, and 138 revisits were made to houses previously inspected.

2 Individual Unit houses were demolished.

3 Closing Order under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953, were made.

1 Demolition Order was made and the house demolished.

1 Formal Undertaking under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, was accepted by the Council and the house converted to a garage and store.

1 Clearance Area comprising 10 houses, submitted for confirmation and the Enquiry held in 1955, was confirmed.

13 Clearance Areas, comprising a total of 52 houses were represented and submitted to the Minister of Housing and Local Government for confirmation.

Table showing the position
at 31st December, 1956,
of houses condemned before the War.

	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>
Number of occupied houses in confirmed clearance areas	10	10	11
Number of occupied houses in areas represented but not confirmed	41	41	31
Number of vacant houses in confirmed clearance areas	18	21	30
Number of vacant houses in areas represented but not confirmed	1	1	1
Number of individual unfit houses occupied	4	4	3
Number of individual unfit houses vacant	5	5	5

Housing (Consolidated) Regulations,
1925 - 1932.

Number of Houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation.	63
Number of Houses, the defects in which were remedied in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers under Public Health or Housing Acts)	80
Number of representations made to the local authority with a view to:-	
(a) serving of notices requiring the execution of works (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	4
(b) the making of demolition or closing orders	5
Number of notices served requiring the execution of works (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	4

Number of Houses which were rendered fit after the service of formal notices (under Public Health or Housing Acts	5
Number of Demolition Orders made	1
Number of Closing Orders made	3
Number of Houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under sub-section (2) of Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936	1
Number of Houses demolished	2
Number of Closing Orders under Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953, determined	NIL

Improvement Grants.

23 applications were received during the year and all were granted. 59 visits were made for the purpose of advising owners, inspecting following applications and supervision of work, while in progress and on completion.

Food & Drugs Act, 1938.

Food Premises.

Number of food premises in the area by type of business is as follows:-

Butchers	26
Canteens	23
Dairies	9
Milkshops	35
Fishmongers and Poulterers	6
Greengrocers	13
Grocers and Confectioners	110
Restaurants and Cafe	28
Bakehouses	7

284 inspections of premises used for the preparation, storage or sale of food were carried out. 435 contraventions were found and 54 informal notices issued. On re-inspection 184 contraventions had been abated, and 16 notices complied with.

Ice Cream

There are 8 premises registered for the manufacture of ice cream, all use the "cold mix" method.

59 premises are registered for the sale only of ice cream.

19 inspections have been made.

Preserved Food.

33 premises are registered for the manufacture of preserved food (sausages, potted and pressed meats, etc.) and 19 inspections of these premises were carried out.

Milk & Dairies Regulations.

Registered are 9 Dairies and 62 Distributors.

Under the Special Designation Regulations, 11 licences have been issued for Tuberculin Tested Milk, 17 for Pasteurised Milk and 53 for Sterilized Milk.

3 visits have been made in connection with registration and licensing.

Slaughterhouses.

The five private slaughterhouses continued operating throughout the year and all licences renewed for a period of 12 months in June.

1447 visits were made to these premises during the year to carry out meat inspection and the carcasses and organs of all animals killed were inspected.

I would point out that since decontrol the number of animals killed has increased over 3 times and the number of visits by 3 times and also that this extra work on Meat Inspection has meant that the time spent on other statutory duties has had to be considerably reduced.

Disposal of Condemned Meat.

All meat and offal condemned is sold to Messrs. Beesons Bros. Ltd., of Crewe. Up to April the collection and delivery was carried out by the Council's vehicles but from that date the firm have undertaken the collection on the Council's behalf. Expenses are deducted and the balance is paid to the slaughterhouse occupiers.

The weights of meat and offal are shown in the tables.

A sum of £214.4.5. has been paid to Messrs. Beesons Bros. Ltd., £21.9.0. expenses deducted and the balance of £192.15.5. paid to the slaughterhouse occupiers.

Deadweight Certification of Pigs.

The Council continued to adopt the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food's Fatstock Guarantee Scheme for deadweight certification of pigs at four of the private slaughterhouses. In December, two of the slaughterhouses were approved as deadweight centres for all classes of fatstock and the Council's services were no longer required.

During the year, 472 clean pigs were certified under the provisions of the scheme, for which the Council was reimbursed £21.14.6. from the Ministry.

MEAT & OTHER FOOD INSPECTION

Total number of Animals Slaughtered and Inspected.

	Pulls	Steers	Cows	Heifers	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
1954	6	189	1310	540	517	9177	2799	14573
1955	65	215	2462	533	412	8636	4819	17192
1956	11	477	2000	1444	493	10671	5045	20140

Particulars of Animals Slaughtered at each of the
Private Slaughterhouses

Slaughterhouses	Bulls	Steers	Cows	Heifers	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
E.&G. Vernon West Street	1	20	64	59	19	486	136	785
J. Clowes Antrobus Street	-	-	12	35	3	3	4	57
J.F. Longman Princess St.	10	432	1721	1135	471	9183	4185	17136
Co-op Society Moor Street	-	24	114	190	-	486	603	1417
W. Bennett Wagg Street	-	1	89	25	-	515	117	745

Weight of Meat Condemned at each of the Private
Slaughterhouses.

	Beef lbs.	Mutton lbs.	Veal lbs.	Pork lbs.	Offal lbs.
E. & G. Vernon ...	-	50	68	236	490
J. Clowes ...	10	100	75	80	148
J.F. Longman ...	6092	556	630	522	26420
Co-op Society ...	303	75	-	114	2477
W. Bennett ...	1162	-	-	100	800
Total	7567	781	773	1052	30335

Total Weight of Meat Condemned

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.
Beef ...	3	7	2	7
Mutton ...	-	6	3	25
Veal ...	-	6	3	17
Pork ...	-	9	1	16
Offal ...	13	10	3	11
Total	18	1	2	3

Carcasses and Offal Inspected and Condemned in Part or Whole.

	Cattle				Figs.
	Ex. Cows.	Cows	Calves	Sheep	
Number killed	1932	2000	493	10671	5045
All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis					
Whole Carcasses condemned	-	2	14	11	7
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	546	518	1	982	523
Percentage affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis	1954 11.33	15.66	11.99	12.36	13.83
	1955 16.34	19.01	6.31	10.10	9.9
	1956 28.26	26.00	3.04	9.31	10.50
Tuberculosis					
Whole Carcasses condemned	4	3	1	-	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	194	392	1	-	251
Percentage affected with Tuberculosis	1954 11.33	26.27	-	-	5.5
	1955 12.4	21.16	-	-	4.27
	1956 10.24	19.75	0.20	-	5.60
Cysticercosis					
Carcasses of which some part was condemned	20	15	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted for treatment by refrigeration	4	3	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage affected with Cysticercosis	1955 1.5	.31	-	-	-
	1956 1.03	0.90	-	-	-

Other Foods Condemned

		Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.
Canned Goods	...	4	0	0
Other Foods	...	3	0	20

Tuberculosis Order, 1938

No animals were slaughtered under the provisions of the above order.

Congenital Tuberculosis in Calves.

During the year one calf carcass was found to be affected with Congenital Tuberculosis, and the Divisional Veterinary Officer was notified.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

The stunning of all animals in the Borough is carried out by means of captive bolt pistols.

3 Slaughtermen's Licences were issued and 31 renewed during the year.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

The Council has one full time operative whose duties are concerned with the destruction of rats and mice.

8 visits have been made by Public Health Inspectors in connection with complaints and general supervision.

All work at business premises was carried out after written or verbal informal intimation had been given and no statutory notices have been served.

A summary of the incidence and treatment carried out is appended.

	Type of Property				Total
	Local Authority	Dwelling houses	Agricultural	All other (including Business and Industrial)	
Total number of properties in Local Authority's district	37	4840	126	916	5959
Number of properties inspected as a result of					
(a) Notification	7	89	5	41	142
(b) Otherwise	19	42	54	14	109
Number of properties found to be infested by rats	Major Minor	- 57	- 12	- 19	- 58
Number of properties found to be infested by mice	5	47	-	29	81
Number of infested properties treated by Local Authority	15	104	7	48	174

Maintenance Treatment for Rats in Sewers.

It is estimated that there are 425 man-holes in the Borough, a test bait of 10% of these was undertaken and two treatments carried out during the year.

At the first treatment 5 man-holes were pre-baited, 3 showed "Takes" and were poisoned; at the second, 43 man-holes were pre-baited and 29 poisoned,

Shops Act, 1950

30 Inspections have been carried out under the provisions of the Act, 2 contraventions were noted and as a result 2 informal notices were served.

Factory Act, 1937.

28 inspections have been made and a summary of visits, contraventions and notices is as follows:-

Inspections

Premises	Number on Register	No. of Inspect- ions	No. of Written Notices	No. of Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	7	1	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	135	24	3	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	-	-	-	-
Total	142	28	3	-

Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were	
	Found	Remedied
Sanitary Conveniences		
(a) insufficient	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	4	3
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-
Total	4	3

16 Certificates have been granted during 1956 in respect of adequate means of escape in case of fire, under Section 34 of the Factories Act, 1937.

Outworkers.

A total of 43 outworkers are shown as employed by factories in the area on the lists submitted in accordance with Section 110 of the Act. All are engaged on the making, altering or repairing of wearing apparel.

